



Federal Emergency Management Agency

Carrye Burley Brown: United States Fire Administrator

Carrye Burley Brown became Administrator of the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), a division of FEMA, in May 1994. She was appointed by President Clinton and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. She is the first African American and first woman to be Administrator of the USFA. Mrs. Brown serves as an advocate for activities designed to reduce the loss of life, injuries and property due to fire in this country. Mrs. Brown has the longest tenure as U.S. Fire Administrator of any of her predecessors.

During Mrs. Brown's administration, the fire losses in the U.S. have reached a new low, due in large part to the effective cooperative working relationship of the USFA with state and local fire and emergency service organizations. In 1999, Mrs. Brown began a nationwide campaign of public education, through personal appearances. This campaign, the first of its kind at the USFA, is aimed at reducing fire losses in those groups at greatest risk, including the elderly, the young, African Americans, Latinos, rural and urban residents, and others. Mrs. Brown is also active in FEMA's internal mentoring program.

As a Congressional staff member for more than 14 years, Mrs. Brown brought extensive experience working with U.S. fire policy and civilian fire budget issues to her role with the U.S. Fire Administration. Her responsibilities on the Science, Space and Technology Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives included oversight of the USFA budget and policies.

A native of Texas, Mrs. Brown received a bachelor's degree from Stephen F. Austin State University and a master's degree from Texas Woman's University. She was awarded a one-year post-graduate scholarship to Oxford University, in England, by the International Rotary Club.

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